Young Woman Declares Husband Couldn't Have Entered Into a Pact to Die with His Friend Benjamin A. Riley.

HE AVERS THEY PLANNED TO END LIFE TOGETHER.

According to Riley, He and Weed Were Disappointed and Came Here from Massachusetts Home to Take Poison.

In spite of the statement of Benjamin A. Rilev, of Boston, who is a prisoner at Bellevue Hospital, charged with attempted suicide, that he and his intimate friend, Orestes A. Weed, of Brookline, entered into a suicide pact, which resulted in the death of Weed and the serious poisoning of Riley by morphine, Mrs. Weed, wife of the dead man declared to-day:

"I am sure there is a mistake. My husband did not commit suicide. There was no reason for his having done so. and I am certain that he did not."
Riley's confession of the suicide nact

to Coroner Scholer was made without a break. He told of how he and Weed bad met in Boston a few days ago and how they had discussed their financial troubles. He said that they both decided life was not worth the living, and after a suggestion from Weed that they die together they came to New York.

Were to Die Christmas.

"When we registered at the Grand Union Hotel on Saturday," said Riley in his confession, "we had about decided to pull off the trick on Christmas. We thought a death celebration would be very appropriate. Then we determined that we would have a good time before we died. We both had money, and we spent it like kings. We went to the theatre, and we drank to drown our sorrows. We decided we would wind up things Tuesday night, and after coming from the theatre and taking many drinks we swallowed the morphine. "I am very sorry Weed is dead.

am glad I am living, though, I was sorry I had taken the drug a few minutes after I swallowed it. Weed was the best friend I had, and his death is a sad blow to me."

Riley is in Bellevue Hospital. If his condition will permit he will be arraigned in police court to-day. He is held a prisoner, charged with attempting suicide.

Mrs. Weed, the young widow, is at the home of her sister in apartments at No. 60 West Tenth street. She will start for Boston with the body of her husband to-day. She is emphatic in her declaration that her husband did not commit suicide.

Weed comes of a family that has figured often in tragic and romantic events. His father, Isaac Weed, died at the family home in Wilmington, Del. three years ago of gas asphyxlation. In sorrow a son-in-law of Isaac Weed killed himself

Conkling Episode Recalled.

When Roscoe Conkling was driven from Canonchet, the \$1,000,000 summer home of former Gov. William Sprague, the owner, at the muzzle of a shotgun, years ago it brought to the surface the story of unhappy Mrs. Kate Chase Sprague. Mrs. Sprague got a divorce from her husband and the blighting of Conkling's political career followed. Former Gov. Sprague, broken in purse and in social position, went to Virginia to rest. At Staunton he met Mrs. Inez Calvert, a widow, the sister of Orestes A. Weed. They were married in 1883. hardly ten months after Mrs. Kate Sprague had obtained her divorce.

They returned to Canonchet and Sprague tried to revive is former splendors. Weed, soon figured in a second shot gun ep sids. Former Gov-ernor Sprague ordere! him from his home pointing the gun at him he had levelled at Conkling. Weed had been paying attention to Sprague's seventeen-year-old daughter.

This episode was followed by the marriage of Miss Avis Weed, a sister of Mrs. Sprague, to young William Sprague, son of Gov. Sprague and his first wife Kate Chase Sprague. Young Sprague's wife later obtained a divorce.
Willie Sprague a few years later killed
himself in Seattle. His former wife.
Orestes Weed's sister, married Col.
Gerritt Smith Wheeton, of Washington,
who is connected with the Standard Oil
group of millionaires.

Sister Eloped.

Sister Eloped.

Then Miss Cleo Juifet Weed, another eister of Weed, eloped from Narragansett Pler and married Howard S. Eaton, a young Lynn, Mass. electrician. Weed figured in several wild stories of midnight robberles at Narragansett Pler, and it was once said that he was to marry Miss Eugenie C. Maginnis, a rich ist. Louis girl. He was once robbed in St. Louis while paying attentions to this heiress.

Several years ago Weed eloped from this city to Providence, R. L. where he married Miss Katherine Ruffin de Rouihad, of Hillsboro, N. C. The couple had met at Narragansett Pler, at Gov. Sprague's home.

Mes. Log. Surague, the former Gover-

had met at Narragaisset Fier, at Gov.

Sprague's home.

Mrs. Inez Sprague, the former Governor's wife, is still living in Rhoue.
Island. A year or two ago she sang et an Emil Mollenhauer concert in Boston with marked success. Before her marriage to former Gov. Spraguehe was studying for the operatic stage in Paris.

Boston with marked success. Before her marriage to forme. Gov. Sprazue the was studying for the operatic stage in Parls.

A peculiar thing in the death of Weed is that members of his family in this city say that they never heard of Hiley, although he says in his statement to Croner Scholer that he has known Weed from boyhood. Bley will be held on a charge of attempting suicide and until Detectives Murtha and Kelly of the Grand Central Poilee Precinct can investigate his story.

The body of Weed will be given to his wifa to-day. The interment will be made at Narragansett Pier. Weed was thirty-three.

CI!CATE NOT TO PRACTICE.

Too Old to Resume Pleading Before the Bar, Ambassador Says.

LONDON, Dec. 29 .- Joseph H. Choate, the American Ambassador here, does not intend to take up law practice when he returns to New York, as re-ported in the press here.

Me considers he has been away too long from the bar, to resume practice at his age.

WIFE SAYS WEED Winding Up 1904 at The Big Store With Great Energy.



A Banner Year at The Big Store. WE'RE too busy planning for the future to indulge in much retrospection.

But 1904 has been such a wonderful year that we feel we would be doing the public and ourselves an injustice did we not say a fleeting word in its behalf

The year began with great energy; and there has never been any cessation. Winter died, Spring was born, Summer came, Fall succeeded, to be followed by the present Winter. Each season was buoyantly, unprecedentedly busy. There was no period of lethargy; we don't permit that.

As a good many people have said: "Yours is a store that does things."

Thanks. We try to do them well. We try to make your shopping here not only interesting but profitab'e-a happy combination, most shoppers declare.

Always something new. And so we wind up 1904 in a manner thoroughly befitting the aggressive and progressive policy of the store.

Bargains, BIG BARGAINS, unusually good bargains. are to be found all over the store—on every floor, in every section. 1904 is passing out in a most striking manner.

Candies & Favors For Now Your

Canaies.

A NO. 1 AMERICAN MIXED. Ib.. De PAPER DOYLUES. doz., 5c to 50c pure sugar French Creams. 10. Paper Narkins, bd., 20: PURE SUGAR FRENCH CREAMS. 102 Ib.,
CHOICE MIXTURE, consisting of chocolate creams, caramels, eccoanut bon bons, cocoanut caramels, French creams and variety of other candles, 150

SNAPPING MOTTOES, 7c to 2 00 FRINGED MOTTO PAPERS, pkgs. 4c olate creams, corramels, occoanut ben bons, cocoanut caramels. French creams and variety of other candles; 150 hb.

FANCY BONBON AND CHOCOLATE MIXTURE, consisting of assorted choeffults; 1b.

BLACK AND WHITE CHINA 100 hours and apricot 230 (Siege Cooper Stort, Main Floor, Centre, 18th 81.)

Jewelry Prices Cut.

Jewelry Store right after the Christmas tales because they how they are sure to obtain many choice bargains in handsome Jewelry. To reduce certain lines and to eliminate others, we cut prices in many instances in half.

Any one will make a pretty New Year's gift. RHINESTONE:—Fire out and in all styles and lesigns. The following ace a few of our special leaders for this sale:

BAR PINS, set in sterling after, at 50c others, according to number of 3.25 stones, up to compare our consessions.

PROSES — Rhirestone Crosses, fine stimes and set in sterling 4.00 SMALL HEARTS, entirely covered with fine rhinostones, suitable to west as Charm or Brooch, 3.50; others 11.25 up to RINGS-Heavy solid gold signet rings, designs; all sizes; selection; great val-ues up to \$4.50 and \$5.00; to \$3.00 close out at HAIR BARRETTES Fine stones 3.25 set in sterling silver, at

Some style, with Poirs, Turquise of Ruby doublets and Rhinestones in beauti-ful combinations.

An Important Post-Holiday Clearance. Many people make a gractice of going to the Siegel Cooper

SMALL HORSESHOES SM with 2.25 CHATELAINE BAGS-Fine mesh white metal, pretty designs, to 750 BOW KNOTS, from \$3.25 up to 15.00

Others up to (Siegel Cooper Store, Main Floor, Front, 18th St.)

Gable Silverware.

Featuring Some Extra Good Bargains.

In adjusting the Table Silverware stocks after the Christmas rush a number of particularly good bargains have come to light. These we offer tomorrow at prices so greatly reduced that it is safe to predict that the demand will be

One of the best barrains in the oTering is this HIGHLY POLISHED TEA SET—Silver on white metal; 4 pieces. COLONIAL PATTERN TEA SETS-4 pieces, with Spoon Holder and

Creamer; gold lined; at, choice of 2 styles, Rogers Al Ware. ROGERS A1 SILVER PLATE ON NICKEL SILVER 2 Fancy designs to make selections from. TEA SPOONS, in sets of 6. at. .50 per set.

TABLE SPOONS, in sets of 6. 7.00 FORKS, in sets of d. at, per 1.00 set. SERT SPOONS OR FORKS. per set, (Siegel Cooper Store, Main Floor, Front.)

Special Holiday Week Offer.



\$250,00 \$350,00

CALDWELL BROOKS PIANO PIANO

Terms: No Money Down.

ON CALDWELL PIANOS \$6.00 MONTHLY, BE. GINNING IN JANUARY.

ON BROOKS PIANOS \$7.00 MONTHLY, BE-GINNING IN JANUARY.

Pianos Ready for Delivery

2,000 Men's Shirts. Stiff Bosom and Negligee Shirts.

Broken lots. That's why they're priced so low for rapid clearance. All good qualities; and all sizes in one or the other. Made to be sold at 50c. to 75c.,

Men's 4-Ply Linen Collars.

Slightly imperfect; so slightly, in fact, that their wearing quality isn't hurt a bit. Laundered, they're practically perfect. Price, (Siegel Cooper Store, Main Floor, East of Fountain.)

The White Sale. Hero's the News

For Friday. WOMEN'S UNDERMUSLINS.

Women's Corset Covers.

WOMEN'S CORSET COVERS—Square and high neck (not more than 2 to a Ge WeMEN'S CORSET COVERS-Cambre: V and round neck, lace trianged. 25c WOMEN'S CORSET COVERS-Names or and some sold and some sold and some sold and sold an brolders trianning. With the and and and work with the work of the sections and edging; others the embroiders, with boby ribbon. 48c WOMEN'S CORSET COVERS No book prettily trimmed with lace of baby ribbon, aby ribbon, WOMEN'S CORSET COVERS Name-ook; trained back and from with fine 1880

Women's Chemises.

WOMEN'S CHEMISE-Cambrie: trim-med with hemstirehed ruffle. 256 WOMEN'S CHEMISE—Cambrie; om-broidered yoke. wondered yoke.

Women's Chemise-Short and akirt length, trimmel with embrodery.

40c

Womin's Chemise-Skirt length, lace trimmel. romin's Chemisz—Skirt length, aret.
At MEN'S CHEMISZ—Skirt length, aret.
Containing with lace and emproiding 1980

Children's Trawers. CHILDREN'S DRAWERS-Musin: two

CHILDREN'S DRAWERS—Good mus-lin, deep hems and four rows hem-suitched tucks; sizes 2 to 14 years. 10c super laws tucked ruffle, with wide embroidery sizes 2 to 14 years. 20c CHILDREN'S DRAWERS-Good mus-

Wight Sowns.

MISSER AND CHILDREN'S NIGHT 100 WINS - Good musin. Hubbard styles tends yoke back and from transmed with tall lace, sizes 4 to 14 years. 25c MISSES - Fine quality the sole yoke of fine hemstitched tucks, neck and four with turn-over college and best with flawn hemstitched tucks, neck and leaves finished with lawn hemstitched tucks, neck and leaves finished with lawn hemstitched and figures; Nortolk tucks, neck and leaves finished with lawn hemstitched tucks, neck and figures; Nortolk dainty plan and in figures; Nortolk tucks, neck and finished with lawn hemstitched and figures; Nortolk dainty plan and in figures; Nortolk tucks, neck and finished with lawn hemstitched tucks, neck and figures; Nortolk dainty plan and in figures; Nortolk dainty plan and figures; Nortolk dainty plan an

Women's Drawers.

WOMEN'S DRAWERS-Mushin, hem and cluster of tucks, OMEN'S DRAWERS—Musiln; deep constitched ruftle. 25e WOMEN'S DRAWERS—Cambric deep tucked lawn ruffle; others lace and em-MEN'S DRAWERS Cambris, under ruffles, lace or embrollery tri

Women's Petticoats. WOMEN'S PETTICOAUS—Goal qual-ity: deep ruffle of cambrie, with stitched hem, extra dust ruffle. 45c WOMEN'S PETTICOATS—been flounce of lawn; some with cluster of tucks, others lace trimmed; extra dust ruffle. 75c

ruffle. 75c WUMEN'S PETTICOATS - Cambric, deep flounce insertions and elaing of Point de Paris face; extra dux ruf-fle, 55c fle, BSe WOMEN'S PETTICOATS - Combridades flaunce, insertion and edging of torcion Mace: others flow electrosely triumning, extra dust ruffle, 1.50 trimming, extra dust rutile, 1.50 WOMEN'S PETTICOATS — Cambries deep flounce, pre tily trimmed with lace and entrollers; extra dust rutile, 1.75 WOMEN'S — PETTICOATS — Deep flounce 5. tucked laws, insertion of fine lace; others embroidery trimmed, extra dust rutile; from 1.95 to 10.50

Children's Potticoats. HILDREN'S FETTICOATS—Excellent usality mustim: yeke band, 5-inch ruffle in bottom of skirt, with deep hemseliched em and tucks; size 2 to 14 years, 20c

Children's Dresses.

VOMPLY 8 NIGHT GOWNS-Music blen neck, tucked yoke (not more than

Women's Underskirts.

W O M E N'S UNDERSKIRTS—Musin, with hemsetched ruffls, 25c W O M E N'S UNDERSKIRTS—Musin, with deep tucked cambric flauncs, 39c W O M E N'S UNDERSKIRTS—Musin, with deep ruffle, some cabrollery, others lago frimming.

Women's Night Sowns.

high neck, tacked yoke that more than a to a cuscomer.

It is a cuscomer.

WOMEN'S NIGHT GOWNS_VENT
Hulbard yoke, embroidery trimmed, 28st
WOMEN'S NIGHT GOWNS—Mustla,
V and high neck, trimming of territoriance or embroidery.

WOMEN'S NIGHT GOWNS—Mustla,
and cambrie; V neck, yoke of fine tucks
and embroidery loarritons.

WOMEN'S NIGHT GOWNS—Carabre;
V and high neck; insertions and edging of fine embroidery; others leed
trimmed.

NIGHT GOWNS—Naintson
and cambrie; good assorting nits of eye
some precitiv trimmed with lace, other
fine embroidery.

WOMEN'S NIGHT GOWNS—Naintsook
and cambrie; all the newest designs;
precitiv trimmed with lace and emkrotdery.

WOMEN'S NIGHT GOWNS—Finer qual-

Extra Sizes a Specialty.

Misses' @ Children's Undermuslins.

Misses' Drawers. MISSES DRAWERS—Cambry, superior pulity; deep ruftle of lawn and ten rows of tucking; finianed with Val. lace edge; sizes 12 to 16 years.

Intants' Long Stips.

Couble "S. & H" Green Trading Stamps Mornings This Week from 8.30 Till 12 o'Clock. Thereafter, Single Stamps Until Closing Hour.

Women's Runabout Skirts

Not a discarded style in the showing, but every garment steadfastly in keeping with the season's dictates and demands. Price quoted is no criterion of the value-merely a price that will hurry away the stock in compliance with the end-of-the-year policy of the store.

Melton Cloth, Mannish Mixtures or Panama Cloth in Varied Colors

In Melton Cloth choice may be had in black, blue, light gray or Oxford; in Mannish Mixtures either brown, blue or gray, and black or blue in Panama Cloth.

Five gored styles, some prettily corded, and all with foot kilts and inverted plait back. Carefully tailored and perfect hanging. Some are finished with tabs and self-covered buttons; 2.95 regularly up to \$4.50. Special, to-morrow.
(Siegel Cooper Outer Apparel Store. 2d Floor.)

For Sirls and Misses.

Froity Russian Dresses, Box Coats and Walking Skirts. We're closing the year in this splendidly stocked section with an exceptionally strong list of good values. We quote four in proof of this for to-morrow:

fine kersey or zibeline; cape elaborately trimmed.

1.95 FOR GIRLS' RUSSIAN DRESSES of novelty cloth. prettily trimmed.

5.00 FOR GIRLS' FULL TOO FOR MISSES WALKING SKIRTS, fancy Scotch tweeds II gored plaited model tweeds II gored plaited model for MISSES 42 - INCH BOX COATS of zibeline. satin lined. (Siegel Cooper Store, Second Floor, Front, 19th St.)

Women's House Sarments.

At the Season's Lowest Prices.

This offering of Women's Eiderdown Dressing Sacques and Bath Robes and Lawn Kimono Sacques, Gowns and Percale Wrappers is prepossessing in every essential qualification.

Of Eiderdown. WOMEN'S BOLERO JACKETS—All-wool supple elaerdown and crochet edge finish, in all the popular colors; made to be sold regulately for 35c, (only 2 10 a customer), very special at 19c

NOMEN'S DRESSING SACQUES—Fine sool elderdown, extra heavy, made with round collar and crochet edge 69c finish; all popular colors. NOMEN'S BATH ROBES—Heavy rippie exterdown; made with pointed collars and kimona siesve, with silk frogs and grile. All the popular colors. Regu-

WOMEN'S KIMONO SACQUES Good quality lawn in variety of desirable colorings, in light and dark; sailor collar and gathered back. Regularly 39. 50c. NORTH TO STAND THE STANDARD STANDA

Of Persale. women's Whappers — exceptionally pretty parterns, light or dark, made extra full, with deet choince and waisis predily trimmed with fancy washable braid; regular \$1.00 qualities, at \$90 (Siegel Cooper Store, Second Floor, Centre, 19th St.)

More News of the Shoe Sale.

The Big Shoe Store Crowded with Customers. Because this is a clearance sale do not think that every pair of Shoes you see has been on sale before. Not a bit of it!

Most of the Shoes are out of their boxes for the first time.

Lots that are ready to reinforce the others have not yet been unpacked. And so you see selections are first-class; just as good practically as if you went into a big factory and was told to take Men's Box Calf Shoes.

FOR BOX CALF LACE SHOES, straight last, with tip, box toes;

1.95 FOR BOX CALF LACE SHOES, straight la all sizes. Also some fine parent leather shoes. Men's Felt Slippers.
FOR GOOD QUALITY BLACK FELT SLIPPERS, with gray 49c. felt soles, stitched on; all sizes. Men's Leather Slippers. FOR MEN'S FINE LEATHER SLIPPERS; season's best styles; suede, calf or kid, in tan, black, brown, gray and other conventional shades; all handsewed; original prices were \$1.25 to \$3.00. Men's Arctics. FOR MEN'S ARCTICS; pure gum rubber; buckle; all sizes; sold 98c. everywhere at \$1.50. Boys' and Youths' Shoes. FOR BOYS AND YOUTHS SHOES; satin calf, lace; all sizes to 98c. fit boys who wear a number nine spring heel and up to the young man who wears a 51/4. Girls' Kidskin Shoes. FOR GIRLS' KIDSKIN, BUTTON AND LACE SHOES with spring 85c. heels and parent leather tips; also box calf lace shoes; sizes up to 11; among these will be found our own \$1.50 shoes. Larger sizes Women's Shoes. FOR WOMEN'S DONGOLA KID LACE SHOES, with parent leather tips; also some felt top with kid foxing and leather sole buion shoes at the same price. FCR WOMEN'S SHOES that regularly sell at \$2.50 to \$4.00; kid shoes in button and lace styles, patent leather shoes in button and lacet califskin shoes in lace and Blucher styles; some good sample shoes; also some green trading stamp \$2.50 shoes. With every par of these shoes you ger 25 Trading Stamps in addition to the regular number. Women's Sample Shoes.

2.25 FOR WOMEN'S SAMPLE SCIOES: a good bargain for all wearing sample ares. This lot is from a maker of high grade shoes, mostly \$5.00 grades.

Women's House Glippers.

Children's Leggins.

less, with thick gray felt soles, sewed; all sizes.

FOR WOMEN'S HOUSE SLIPPERS : black or red wool felt, seam-

FOR CHILDREN'S LEGGINS; regularly \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$1.75;

velvet and corduroy. In pretty shades to match overcoats. These are made up in the best possible manner, and we have nearly every size.

(Stage) Copie Store, 2d Floor.)

for WOOL VELVET CARPETS—Unexcelled for durability, which fact proves its popularity, line comprises good room, hall and stair effects, \$1.00 grade: 750 proceds. special.
WOOL PRINTED VELVET CARPETS—
An excellent opportunity to secure choice An excellent opportunity to secure choice of about 20 patterns, with or without borders, neat designs and color 690 ings, your selection at TAFESTRY BRUSSELS CARPETS—High-grade qualities of this most p-pular patterns, but splendid values.

See grade, 64c 65c Rugs.
BODY BRUSSELS RUGS-About 25 rugs. to close— Size 0x12, regular \$27.30, special, 21.50 Size 8.3x10.6, regularly \$23.50, 19.25 special,

Carpets and Rugs. close, 17.50 out a limited and designs-

Size 9x12, special, Size 8.3x10.6, special, Size 3x5.3, special. Size 2 3x4.6, special, TAPESTRY BRUSSELS RUGS Suitable for roome, halls and offices Size 9x12, regularly \$15.50, /2.50 special. Size 9x10.6, regularly \$12.00, 9.75

Size 2 2x4.6, to close, special, Size 1.9x4.0, to close, special, Size 2.2x4.6, to close, special, Size 4x1.2x5.0, to close, special, Size 4x2.4x5.0, to close, special, Size 2.6x5.0, to close, special, Size 2.6x5.0, to close, special, Size 2.2x4.6, to close, special, Size 1.9x4.0, to close, speci (Siegel Cooper Store, Fifth Floor, Front.)

Fresh 1905

Designs.

Broad in scope of styles and uncommonly attractive in range of prices. This showing is manifestly an advance 1905 display. For popular-priced Waists the six models quoted are attractive.

"Iris" Waists AS ILLUSTRATED, a decidedly attractive model; made of extra quality mercerized Oxford, in both white 1.00 and light blue: front and cuffs embroidered with large and small silk polka cots in self and contrasting colors; new turndown buttonhole embroidered collar.

"White Rose" Waists 1.25

linen-an emphatic hit. Entire front a floral design in open-work embroidery; newest sleeves; embroidered turncown collar; most charming style and extraordinary values. White Lawn New Spring model, front vest eTec.

beautifully designed with fine tucks, Waists 1.50 graduated side plaits, insertings of embroidery, lace and lace edge, cut extra full and long. Especially priced. White Lawn New surplice style, fine quality of

lawn, two wide insertings of old Eng-Waists 1.95 lish embroidery, tucked shield, fancy turndown linen collar, new sleeve, plaired cuffs.

White Lawn Side plaited model, cleverly designed, superior quality of law shield front of drawn work inserting and blind embroide new plaited sleeve, long shoulder effect, plaited back, in turndowa collar.

Handsome new model of white

White Lawn
Waists 2-75
Fine sheer quality, artistically designed, entire front. cuffs and collar of fine French rucks, hemstiching, embroidery and fagoring cluster rucked back.
(Siegel Cooper Waist Store, Second Floor, Cester, 18th St.)